

NEW NATIONAL ERA.

All communications for publication in the NEW NATIONAL ERA must be addressed to Lewis H. Douglass, Jr., Lock Box 11, New York City. Business letters from subscribers and advertisers should be addressed to Frederick Douglass, Jr., Lock Box 11. This paper is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents.

Subscribers changing their residence, and desiring to have the NEW NATIONAL ERA forwarded to them, should be particular in writing us to state fully the new address, including town, county and State, as well as the town, county and State from which the change is to be made. Attention to this will save much trouble.

LEWIS H. DOUGLASS, Jr., Editor.

THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 1874.

INDUCEMENTS.

Any one sending us \$2.50 will receive the NEW NATIONAL ERA and Wood's Monthly Magazine for one year, together with a beautiful chromo of the Yosemite Valley, or a fine photograph of either Frederick Douglass, Esq., or Toussaint L'Ouverture, as they may choose. This chromo is a fine copy of a piece of nature's grandest work, and is not presented in the usual limited style—its dimensions, 14x20 makes a picture of very desirable size.

Rates of Postage.

For the information and convenience of our readers, we publish the following abstract of the postal laws of the United States. We advise our readers to cut this out and preserve it for reference:

Postal cards, one cent each, go without further charge to all parts of the country.

All letters to all parts of the United States, three cents per half ounce.

Local, or "drop" letters, that is for the city or town where deposited, two cents if delivered by carriers, and one cent if there is no carrier system.

For newspapers and magazines, regularly issued and sent to regular subscribers, the following rates per quarter of three months, payable in advance at the office where received:

Dailies, six times a week, 35 cents.
Semi-weeklies, 15 " "
Semi-monthlies, 10 " "
Semi-annually, 5 " "
Monthly, not over 4 oz., 3 " "
Quarterlies, not over 4 oz., 1 " "

Take Notice.

Our friends should be particular in addressing letters to publishers of this paper not to add "AND CITIZEN." It is possible that letters intended for us have fallen into the hands of those who attempt to destroy the paper has led them into all sorts of annoying capers.

The Duty of Massachusetts.

Wendell Phillips has never sought office; his devotion to freedom has been ever allied with a moral insight and foresight which made him shrink from the snares and blandishments of position and cling to reformatory independence. It is scarcely to the credit of our times that such men as Wendell Phillips are allowed to indulge their choice for non-official leisure. Their inclination to keep out of politics is perhaps the best qualification they could bring to the discharge of the duties of a high position. It was the feature of freedom from mere politics which gave to the late Charles Sumner his greatest power over the hearts of the race whose wrongs he sought to right; and in this respect we know of but one man in Massachusetts who can compare with Sumner. Doubtless he will not thank us for using his name in connection with an office to which the ballots already cast give no indication of his election; but it is our duty, under the suggestions of wisdom, no less than of gratitude, to ask the Republican party of Massachusetts to give us its nearest resemblance to Charles Sumner. Wendell Phillips is the next national figure to which the longing hearts of the oppressed will turn, and the first of free States ought to clothe him with the official power to guard the black man's cause and to advance his interests in the most august legislative assembly of the Republic. His wondrous eloquence, his undoubted piety, associated, as everybody knows, with a scholarship as rare as Sumner's, and with an experience as ripe. There can be no objection to him on the score of party consistency and fidelity; for, if he has not always been in the ranks, it was simply because he was ahead of them in search of the first friend of the last enemy of freedom. We look to see the Old Bay State do herself justice by ending her dead lock in the choice of Wendell Phillips.

The Summer State.

The people of the District of Columbia are actively at work in arranging for the securing of subscriptions to the Summer monument. The lady teachers are organizing a lady's Summer monument association; the heads of benevolent societies are arranging to carry out Mr. Sella Martin's plan of getting their societies to act in raising a Summer memorial fund, to be deposited in their own name in bank, to be used, in connection with other funds thus contributed; and arrangements have been perfected to hold meetings in every precinct of the District, when the money raised will be placed at the disposal of the Lady's Monumental Association. The failure of the Fifteenth-street Church meeting has found the people who opposed the Star Chamber work in such bonds of harmony that it is expected that Washington will be the banner city of the Union in this great enterprise.

Downing's Card.

G. T. Downing comes out in a card in the Washington Republican in which he says, he "could discuss character, refer to disgraceful conduct, to a deviation from that soberness and temperate bearing that mark gentlemen, but I shall all by." It would seem that the loud-mouthed accuser has come down to an excruciating whisper in trying to stem the tide of indignation which Mr. Sella Martin's friends directed against Downing. Is it not strange that Downing could not find a friend on his side to come to his rescue through the press, where he had been overwhelmed by the testimony of honorable gentlemen?

In such a matter as venal slander there is no room for repentance. Downing talks in his card about the sacredness of Mr. Sumner's memory. Is it not a pity that Downing did not feel this sense of reverence when he sought by false accusations to injure a man's reputation simply because that man out-maneuvered him in a parliamentary struggle? Downing says Mr.

Martin was in the Star Chamber business before he was; well, yes; but Martin had the public spirit and courage to leave it, and the people unanimously support him. In this connection it is significant that Sella Martin has preserved his dignity by leaving to his friends the task of vindicating him, while Downing is left to his own support in a feeble attempt at self defense. We predict that such will be the relative results in the efforts of the two men to lead in building Mr. Sumner's monument. The monument will surely be built but it will be done by the people.

Martin vs. Downing.—The Difference Between the Men.

A reporter of one of the New York journals called on Mr. Sella Martin to interview him on the subject of Downing's slanderous accusation, and this was the result: Reporter. "Mr. Martin, I called to get your views in regard to George T. Downing and his monumental association. Have you any objection to go into the whole matter?" Mr. Martin. "Yes, sir, I have. Downing, at the monumental meeting the other night, made a fool of himself, in trying to injure, by reputation, by a false charge, and I do not propose to imitate his example. I never have indulged in personalities, written or spoken, and I never expect to."

Our National Wealth.

The statistics of the last census in regard to the wealth of the nation four years ago contains interesting information pertaining to that subject even at this late date. The amassed wealth of the whole country, according to these statistics, was, in 1870, \$30,068,488,507, against \$16,159,616,068 in 1860, and \$7,135,789,228 in 1850. It will thus be seen that notwithstanding the immense waste and loss of property during the exhausting four years' war, together with the loss of \$2,000,000 in slave property, the increment of national wealth during the past decade reaches a little over 86 per cent., while, during the past two decades, the gain has been a little more than three hundred and ten per cent. The growth of real and personal property in the leading States has no parallel in the world's history. New York greatly exceeds in wealth any other State in the Union—Pennsylvania, Ohio, Massachusetts, Illinois, Missouri, and Indiana ranking next in the order written.

The entire valuation of the property of the whole country was at that time a little over \$30,000,000,000, against \$16,000,000,000 in 1860, being an increase of 85 per cent. in ten years embracing the period of the rebellion. At the same ratio of increase, the wealth of the nation would now reach about \$42,000,000,000, while our wealth nearly doubles in each ten years, that of Great Britain doubles at the rate of once in one hundred years, or only a tenth part as fast.

The Massachusetts Senatorship.

The New York Times, becoming impatient at the delay of the Massachusetts Legislature in choosing Mr. Sumner's successor, recommends the election of Charles Francis Adams, and thinks it would be the most gratifying choice that could be made. To the Democratic party it might possibly be exceedingly gratifying, and to that portion of the Republican party which thinks it has fulfilled its mission and outlived its usefulness. And even to them we suspect the election of Mr. Dawes would be quite as gratifying. We shall be mistaken if the Democrats who are now supporting Mr. Curtis, don't drop him and unite on Mr. Dawes, should his friends adhere to him. It can make little difference to the Republican party which of these candidates prove successful. At any rate, it is quite certain that Mr. Adams has no sympathy with the Republican party, and very little, if any, with the principles to which Mr. Sumner devoted so many years of his life. It would very strikingly illustrate the sincerity of the Massachusetts Legislature towards Mr. Sumner since his death, to fill his vacant seat in the Senate, by electing a man entertaining none of his views upon the question of civil rights of the colored race, and having no feelings in common with the Republican party upon hardly one of the great questions of the day.

Modern Solons on "Inflation."

The passage of the bill by the House, limiting the greenback circulation at \$400,000,000, has brought down upon the heads of its members a flood of abuse from the hard-money portion of the press. These financial Solons seem to imagine that all human wisdom is embodied in their heads, and that everybody who differs from them is a fool or knave. Though the bill in question was passed by a vote of more than two to one in the House, and its principle approved by a decided majority of the Senate, these inaccurate editorial censors denounce them not only as utterly ignorant of the wants of the country, but as flagrantly false to the principles of the Republican party. The fact that amongst the statesmen of the country as well as those who have devoted their lives to the study of finance, there are not two who agree upon any single measure in all its details, makes no difference with these newspaper magistrates. They haven't a doubt but they know all about it, and that there is something radically wrong in the head or heart of all who do not agree with them. So Congress has to take the unparaphable abuse of these modern Solons, for having decided that the currency of a country should increase in proportion to its increase in wealth and population.

The "Barbarism of Slavery."

It is idle to suppose that the "barbarism" produced by the cruel curse of slavery will be eradicated from the hearts of the people who were so long subjected to its terribly demoralizing and blighting influences, by the destruction of the institution. The depravity was too thoroughly ground into the system and had taken too deep root in the whole constitution of slave-holding society, to be effaced from this and scarcely from the succeeding generations, by the removal of the cause. There is as strong a determination to keep alive a veneration for the institution of slavery, a feeling of hatred for the government for overthrowing the system, and of bitter prejudice towards the class of citizens from whom the manacles have been removed. The following barbarous and brutal article from the *Meridian* (Miss.) *Mercury*, is one of a thousand such exhibitions as might be selected in proof of our statement:

"If the race to which those people belong who are faring so wretchedly every day on 'hot fare,' at the expense of another race, had to pay the hotel bill, do you think, as a free and independent people, they would let the law which prescribes this mode of pun-

ishment—punishment harder on the taxpayers than on the criminal—stand on the statute book? We have a decided notion that they would not. Instead of putting their criminals in jail, and sending them better than they fare at home, they would adopt a mode of punishment that punishes. Instead of jailing at public expense, they would have instruments of actual torture to the flesh, such as the whipping post, pillory, stocks, thumb screws, etc. Since these people are mixed up with us in such way that they cannot make their own laws to fit their peculiar nature, a wise statesmanship would seek to adapt special laws to their race peculiarities. 'Thirty days' to a white man in jail, with the attendant disgrace, is a punishment, though you should feed him on all the delicacies and dainties the market affords, as the hotel-keepers have it in their advertisements; but what is it to the negro, who obtains an uncertain and often scant subsistence by begging and thieving. It is rather a luxurious case. * * * Under these circumstances, he would be a wise law-giver who could rise above the folly of disregarding the distinction of race, and enact that as justice whipping post shall be erected in the public square for the expiation of the smaller offences by the race of people who can laugh to scorn a few days' jailing with good feeding; could be made to feel and to equanimity the infliction of '40 whips' well laid on the bare back?"

Periodicals.

The current number of *St. Nicholas* opens with an article of the invention of printing, by Donald G. Mitchell, and by a large engraving of Gutenberg's statue at Strasbourg. An article, entitled "Life-Saving Our Coast," by William H. Riebeling, gives a useful and highly interesting account, of how poor shipwrecked sailors and passengers are saved when they are thrown upon our coast; for it appears, they are nearly always saved. Four excellent illustrations accompany this article. Another useful paper is that upon "Wood Carving," illustrated by working designs. Elizabeth Stuart Phelps contributes a short story called "Taken at His Word," finely illustrated by Sheppard. T. B. Aldrich has an account of the infant violinist, James Speight, which is full of pathetic interest; there is "The Church-Cock," a translation, from the Swedish of Topelius; "Mrs. Pomegranate," by Mrs. Mary E. Bradley; "The Wrong Bird," by Paul Eort, a story of the trouble a little negro boy got into by going after birds' nests that were bigger than himself; and the conclusion of that "real boy's" story "Wrecked at Home," by Noah Brooks. The poems are by Celia Thaxter, Margaret Eyttinge and Mary A. Lathbury. The latter illustrates per poem, which is a curious conceit, showing how old Mother Moon goes about after her little stars who stay up too late. The three series are increasing in interest. In "Fast Friends," there are adventures at a boarding-house in New York; in "Nimpoop's Troubles," the children get into scrapes in a Western village, and in "What Might Have Been Expected," wonderful scenes are connected in the backwoods of Virginia. "Jack-in-the-Pulpit," is unusually good this month; he fairly sparkles with fun, and everybody, old and young, will be sure to have a jolly laugh with "Jack" for April. The Letter Box and other departments are full and interesting as usual.

Opinions of Our Subscribers.

NORTH TUNNIDGE, VT., March 18, 1874.

Dear Sir: The NEW NATIONAL ERA is a good paper, and I will take it as long as I get a dollar. Do you not think it would be well to have the market in it from the South?

Sincerely yours,

THEO. CARROLL.

COLUMBUS CITY, IOWA, March 26, 1874.

Dear Sir: Your printed circular of this month is at hand. In reply I send you Post Office order for \$5. Send copy to my son. I cannot live without the NEW NATIONAL ERA. I consider it the only faithful exponent of just principles published in Washington City.

Yours, truly,

WM. H. HANNA.

JACKSON, MISS., Nov. 18, 1873.

Dear Sir: You may always consider me a regular subscriber while the NEW NATIONAL ERA and I are in existence.

D. W. MOSLEY.

KEY WEST, FLA., Nov. 7, 1873.

Dear Sir: Your able paper is truly interesting to me, and I hope to be more active part in getting new subscribers to it.

THOMAS DABNEY.

ATBURN, Jan. 4, 1874.

Dear Sir: I hope your paper will not be discontinued, as we need it very much. There is none to fill its place, and it ought to be well supported.

MRS. E. M. WILLIAM.

WYTHEVILLE, VA., Jan. 5, 1874.

Dear Sir: I am working for your paper because I think it advocates principles which are of the highest interest to our race.

W. R. WATKINS.

COVINGTON, NEWTON CO., GA., Dec. 29, 1873.

Dear Sir: I feel under a very great obligation to you for your paper, which is to me the greatest of all papers.

HENRY RUSSELL.

PARKERSBURG, W. VA., Jan. 2, 1874.

I hereby transmit you the subscription to your valuable journal.

ROBT. W. SIMMONDS.

WYANDOTTE, KAN., Dec. 27, 1873.

Find here my subscription for your valuable paper.

C. PATTERSON.

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 25, 1873.

We are few in numbers in Milwaukee, but we feel an interest in the success of the NEW NATIONAL ERA.

C. W. DOBNEY.

ALLEGANY CITY, Dec. 22, 1873.

Mr. Fredk Douglass, Jr.: I have sent you the subscription to your valuable paper.

LAFAYETTE MASSEY.

LONDON, Chester Co., Pa., Oct. 30, 1873.

Mr. Douglass: Sir: I shall do all I can this winter for the cause of justice, humanity, equality, and the spread of the NEW NATIONAL ERA.

C. G. BOYER.

BALTIMORE, Oct. 27, 1873.

Dear Editors: I appreciate your paper and have been sending it off in all directions as a specimen of colored enterprise and ability. I do heartily wish it great success.

S. L. M. CANSER.

WILKESBARRE, Oct. 21, 1873.

Mr. Douglass, Jr.: I love your paper; I am proud of your enterprise, and as far as I am able, I shall give it my support.

B. F. TOWNE.

HILLSDALE, MICH., Oct. 31, 1873.

Dear Sir: You can always count me as a subscriber for your valuable paper, as long as I can raise two dollars and fifty cents.

C. H. MCALLISTER.

ITHACA, N. Y., Jan. 13, 1874.

To the Editor of the New National Era:

Dear Sir: Enclosed find a renewal of my subscription to your paper, and allow me to say I should feel quite lost without it.

WM. WATERS.

PINE BLUFF, ARK., Jan. 10, 1874.

Mr. Fredk Douglass, Jr.: Sir: I have taken great pleasure in reading the ERA, and think it the paper for the colored man. I have changed all that. It has brought back the nation out of the slough of the pro-slavery interpretations of the constitution to the high ground of the Declaration of Independence on which it set out. The nation has entered upon another stage of its history. It is the time of the great struggle, too, the equal rights of all men. The black man and the white man are now equals before the law. Their social rights the law has nothing to do with, and neither party invokes the help of the nation. But their equal rights are to be maintained—and, if need be, enforced at whatever cost. If a State tramples down any portion of its people, then constitution or no constitution, the nation must, by the paramount laws of humanity and justice, lift them up.

ALEX. S. MOORE.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 10, 1874.

Mr. Douglass, Esq.: I have read your paper with much satisfaction, and derived from it much benefit.

BALTIMORE, KENNARD.

NASHUA, N. H., Jan. 6, 1874.

Dear Sir: I love your paper, and I wish it were in all persons' hands, for I know it would do them good.

EDWARD LEE.

HAGERSTOWN, WASHN CO., MD., Dec. 1, 1873.

Mr. Douglass: Sir: With pleasure I embrace the first opportunity of subscribing for your valuable paper.

WM. E. NELSON.

COLUMBUS, MISS., Nov. 19, 1873.

Mr. Douglass, Jr.: Sir: I have more to say of your paper than my tongue is able to express. It is my comfort and my guide. It furnishes me language for my political career and conversation for my private entertainments. In fact, it supplies me in every particular with just what I wish to read.

JOHN S. HAMILTON.

PETERSBURG, N. Y., March 27, 1874.

Dear Friend: The evening's meetings of your circular, I am grateful for the trial through which you and Lewis are passing. May God direct and bless you. Credit me with ten dollars.

Your friend,

GERHIT SMITH.

To F. DOUGLASS, JR.

Dear Sir: I learn from our mutual friend, Rev. W. J. Moore, at Charlotte, that efforts are being made to break the paper down. Hence, notwithstanding I may not see the paper in its present form, I feel it my duty to cast in my mite in aid of a paper which our whole people ought to be proud to support. Enclosed find order for \$2.50.

Very respectfully,

J. W. HOOD.

F. DOUGLASS, JR.

Dear Sir: Enclosed herein you will find \$1.25 for your paper for six months. I find I cannot do without it. In a few days will send some subscribers.

Yours,

J. E. PATTERSON.

Subscribers, who have received notices, will do well to renew their subscriptions at once.

Hon. Gerrit Smith Writes the following Letter on Civil Rights.

PETERSBURG, March 6, 1874.

I confess that I am somewhat afraid that the Civil Rights Bill, or any other which may be substantially like it, will fail to become a law. One effect of this failure will be the death of the Republican party. For when the cause of the fugitive slave is put into law, it will be a death blow to the party. I have continued in power as such it will, of necessity, cease to live when it shall cease to be a reform party. I do not apprehend that the death of the Republican party will be the death of the Democratic party. The party, in its earlier day a progressive and good one, became a miserable conservative and bad one. Notwithstanding there was a countless number of noble and noble men in it, the party allowed itself, by force of its pro-slavery training, to sympathize with the enemy in our late war. This sympathy was fatal to it. It was a sin not to be forgiven. The party, though it may struggle, years longer, against its constantly approaching destiny, must at last break up, and its members become free to attach themselves to some party of less odious and of less fatal traditions. The old Federal party abandoned in 1860, and the new party, the party of the Democratic party to power. That party, in its earlier day a progressive and good one, became a miserable conservative and bad one. Notwithstanding there was a countless number of noble and noble men in it, the party allowed itself, by force of its pro-slavery training, to sympathize with the enemy in our late war. This sympathy was fatal to it. It was a sin not to be forgiven. The party, though it may struggle, years longer, against its constantly approaching destiny, must at last break up, and its members become free to attach themselves to some party of less odious and of less fatal traditions. 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